

### Supplementary Material

#### **Factors informing funding of health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children: perspectives of decision-makers**

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## **Supplementary File S1. Interview Guide: Decision-maker/Policy maker interview guide**

### **Introduction**

- Thank you for participating.
- There are no right or wrong answers and you can stop at any time or skip questions.
- We will be recording this interview so that we don't miss anything you say. The recordings are confidential and what you say will not be linked to you.

I'm going to ask you some questions about your perspective on health programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. We are particularly interested in your views on the outcomes from these programs.

So the first couple of questions are just some general questions and then we'll delve more into questions around the use of outcomes data in the decision-making process.

### **Questions**

#### **A. Warm up question**

1. Could you briefly tell me about your role?

#### **B. State of health programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children**

2. I'd like to hear your thoughts on how health programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in general are doing in Australia with regards to meeting the needs of their communities.
  - a. Are you aware of programs that are meeting the needs of their community? Can you briefly tell me about the program?
  - b. What do you think are the main challenges faced by these programs today?

#### **C. Role of outcomes data in decision-making**

In this part of the interview we would like to know what outcomes data would be useful to you if you were asked to make a decision about introducing a new health program to the community or maybe asked to make a decision about the future of an existing health program.

Can you think back to a time when you were involved in decisions or policy to support the implementation of a new program or to determine the future of an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander child health program?

3. What information was most useful in the decision-making process?
4. Was an evaluation of the program important? Why?

#### **D. Outcomes valued by policymakers in evaluations**

5. To make evaluations more useful to decision-makers what outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child health programs should be included in evaluation reports?
6. Families listed the following outcomes as important:
  - a. Fun and welcoming– that the kids enjoy coming to the service or program
  - b. Safety – if they have to leave their children, that they will be safe
  - c. Consistency – that the service/program will provide the same quality of service
  - d. Knowledge – that they and their children can learn something, not only about health but with broader programs about their culture
    - i. What are your thoughts on these outcomes?

7. Providers listed the following outcomes as important:
  - e. People using programs feel confident that their needs will be met
  - f. Trusting relationship with program participant so they are able to tell them their story
  - g. That participants in the programs and services feel supported
    - i. What are your thoughts on these outcomes?
9. What other factors do you think contribute significantly to a decision to fund or allocate resources to a new program or to decisions to continue to fund or discontinue an existing program?
  - h. Can you tell me why you think these factors are so important?
  - i. Are they to you? Why?

**E. Views on value of child health programs to communities**

10. Overall what aspects of a child health program contribute to its success in an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community?  
*Prompt: you can think in terms of the outcomes and the patients' and family's experience with the program*

**F. Closing**

10. Do you have any additional comments you would like to share?